

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 are present in this application. By this Amendment, the Abstract of the Disclosure and claim 1 have been amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,579,647 to Calton et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is well settled that “anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of a claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.” *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co.*, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) The Office Action contends that Calton discloses a plurality of rotors 22, 24 “each of which is configured to carry an adsorbent thereon and is rotatably supported.” To the contrary, however, Calton discloses a desiccant assisted system for dehumidification and cooling of an enclosed space, where the system includes a desiccant wheel 22 and a heat exchange wheel 24. The heat exchange wheel 24 is generally made of a sheet-shaped metal such as aluminum, stainless steel and copper. In contrast with the claimed subject matter, the heat exchange wheel 24 in Calton does NOT have any desiccant; rather, Calton provides only one of the rotors 22, 24 with a desiccant. In an effort to clarify this distinction, claim 1 has been amended to recite that each of the plurality of rotors carries an adsorbent thereon and is rotatably supported. Since this subject matter is thus lacking in the Calton patent and since anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is misplaced.

Still further, claim 1 defines partition members arranged at outermost end portions of the rotors and between the rotors so as to partition a rotary zone of each rotor into an adsorption zone, a regeneration zone and a cooling zone. In this context, the Office Action refers to Calton at column 5, lines 51-65. This section in Calton, however, defines two sections of the desiccant wheel 22 and two sections of the heat exchange wheel 24. Even assuming that these sections anticipate one or more of the claimed zones, which Applicants do not concede, Calton lacks any such partition structure that partitions each rotor into three zones. For this reason also, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is misplaced.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Calton in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,242,473 to Ogasahara. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Ogasahara patent does not correct the deficiencies noted above with regard to Calton. That is, neither Calton nor Ogasahara provides any suggestion to modify the Calton system such that each rotor carries an adsorbent thereon or to include partition members that partition each of the rotors into an adsorption zone, a regeneration zone and a cooling zone. Indeed, if the Calton system was modified so that the heat exchange wheel 24 included an adsorbent, this structural modification would render the Calton system inoperative for its intended purpose. Clearly then such a modification would not have been obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the

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application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants'
undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Prompt passage to issuance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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